



Announcing: Public Forum on Public Access Television in Austin  
City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Room 1101  
June 9, 2010 at 7:00pm

The Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission seeks your input on the future of public access television and community media in Austin.

**Background:**

In Austin, three cable channels are allocated for public access television, following federal law and the municipal cable franchise. The City of Austin currently contracts with ChannelAustin, a local non-profit, to manage the City's public access television resources which include a studio facility with state of the art digital video production equipment, to provide video production training and to program these three channels for the Austin community.

In 2011 two significant events will occur.

- The franchise agreement between the City and Time Warner Cable will end. The company will then operate in Austin under a state-issued franchise, the terms of which are expected to impact funding for public access operations. The City will no longer receive operating funds through the cable franchise which it currently uses to fund the management contract.
- The current management contract will also end. The City is expected to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for access television management services, with a funding model that could be very different than before. The Commission seeks community input on the scope of services for the new contract.

The Commission seeks community input to help prioritize funding needs, and identify new mechanisms for funding public access television.

**Call for participation:**

The Commission will sponsor a public forum to gather community input on public access television and community media in Austin. Any interested member of the community may attend and sign up to speak on these issues. (Three minutes per speaker.)

The Commission invites comments on the following areas:

- What are the ways you currently use public access television?
- What do you think are the most important priorities and services for public access television and community media?

- How can public access television and community media best take advantage of changes in video and online technology?
- What should public access television and community media services do to engage more of the community, especially today's "digital native" youth?
- What ideas do you have to help sustain public access television and community media in Austin?
- Other issues relating to public access television and community media in Austin.

Please contact 974-2999 if you need any additional information.